

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00

SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 IO-13 ACDA-12 PC-01 AID-05

HA-05 /107 W

-----100654 241354Z /45

O R 241310Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7183

AMEMBASSY CARIO

DIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

C O N F I D E N T I A L NDJAMENA 2026

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, MOPS, CD

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF FIGHTING IN ATI

REF: NDJAMENA 1975

EUMMARY: REFTEL GAVE INITIAIL REPORT OF FIGHTING AT ATI.

THIS MESSAGE PROVIDES FURTHER DETAILS.

1. SUMMING UP OF FIGHTING AT ATI REVEALS INITIAL

ACCOUNTS SOMEWHAT INN ERROR. FRENCH SUFFERED THREE

DEAD AND 14 WOUNDED; REBELS, 75 TO 80 DEAD AND TWO

PRISONERS WITH UNKNOWN WOUNDED: AND CIVILAN CASUALTIES

INCLUDED 25 TO 30 DEAD PLUS GUESSTIMATED 120 WOUNDED.

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2. SKEWED FIGURES OF MANY DEAD AND NO PRISONERS

RESULTED FROM FRENCH STRATEGY OF MINIMIZING THEIR

OWN LOSSES THROUGH USE OF AIR POWER. INITIAL FRENCH

ASSAULT WAS LAUNCHED AROUND NOON FRIDAY, MAY 19, BY

JAGUAR AIRCRAFT AND WAS FOLLOWED UP BY HELICPOTER

GUNSHIPS. WHEN FRENCH FOUND THEY WERE STILL MEETING RESISTANCE,

GROUND FORCES WITHDREW AT 1600 HRS TO  
SECURE POSITIONS FOR NIGHT. WHEN AIR WAS SENT IN  
MORNING SATURDAY, MAY 20 AND ENCOUNTERED NO RESISTANCE,  
FRENCH GROUND FORCES MOVED IN TO OCCUPY CITY WHICH  
REBELS HAD ABANDONED OVERNIGHT.

3. EMBASSY AND DATT SOURCES REVEAL THAT A NUMBER  
OF NEW WEAPONS SURFACED AT ATI. AMONG  
CAPTURED REBEL STOCKS WERE 106MM RECOILLESS  
RIFLE AND ONE ANTI-TANK RPG-7. THE LATTER IS THE  
FIRST TO BE CAPTURED. FRENCH NOT ONLY USED JAGUARS  
FOR FIRST FULL SCALE MISSION, BUT ALSO EMPLOYED  
AS-11 WIRE GUDED MISSILES FROM HELICOPTER GUNSHIPS.

4. RADIO CHAD INTERVIEW WITH CAPTURED TRUCK  
DRIVER, BROADCAST MAY 23, CONTAINED INFORMATION THAT  
COLUMN ATTACKING ATI AND DJEDDA, COMPRISED OF 14 TRUCKS  
AND APPROXIMATELY 150 MEN, ORIGINATED AT  
SEBHA, LIBYA. IT WAS JOINED IN VICINTY ATI BY LOCAL  
REBEL FORCES. (EMBASSY SOURCES REPORT ONLY FOUR OR  
FIVE TRUCKS FROM COLUMN WERE DESTROYED AND THAT  
REBELS REMAINS WITHIN 45 KILOMETERS OF ATI.)

5. TWO FRENCH JOURNALISTS NOW ARE SCHEDULED TO  
VISIT MONGO AND ATI AREAS. WE WILL INFORM DEPARTMENT  
WHEN DETAILS OF THEIR VISIT ARE AVAILABLE.  
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6. COMMENT: WHILE FRENCH STRATEGY MINIMIZES  
CASUALTIES AND DOMESTIC FRENCH POLITICAL IMPACT,  
IT BOTH PERMITS REBELS TO ESCAPE AND REFORM AND  
ADDS TO CIVILAIN ANIMOSITY IN NORTH BECAUSE  
OF EXTENSIVE VICTIMS AMONG LOCAL POPULATION. ONE EMBASSY  
SOURCE QUTES AND NDJAMENA REP OF ATI FROLINAT GROUP  
AS SAYING THAT MORE THAN 120 INNOCENT VICTIMS IN CITY  
ASSURE TOTAL SUPPORT FOR ANY FUTURE FROLINAT OPERATION  
IN AREA. BRADFORD

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** COMBAT OPERATIONS, CASUALTIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978NDJAME02026  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780218-1171  
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**Message ID:** ff56c397-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 NDJAMENA 1975  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2587551  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** REVIEW OF FIGHTING IN ATI  
**TAGS:** PINS, MOPS, PBOR, CD, FR, FROLINAT  
**To:** STATE CAIRO  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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